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June 10, 2008

Secretary of Labor
Top Hat Plan Exemption
Employee Benefits Security Administration
Room N-5644
US Department of Labor
200 Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20210

SUBJECT: Statement required under Department of Labor Regulations Section 2520-104-23

To Whom It May Concern:

The Association of Universities for Research in Astronomy, Inc. (AURA) plans to maintain a plan primarily for the purpose of providing deferred compensation for a select group of management and highly compensated employees.

AURA's address of record is 1212 New York Avenue, NW, Suite 450, Washington, DC 20005.
AURA's employer identification number (EIN) is 86-0138043.

There is only one such plan. There are 153 employees (please see the attached schedule) based on managerial duties and compensation level eligible to participate in the deferred compensation plan as of May 1, 2008, the effective date of the plan.

I have prepared a 22-page summary of plan provisions required by Section 104(a)(1) of ERISA that is available for your review upon request.

Sincerely,



Patrick R. Phelan
Pension Plan Administrator

Attachment

The following 153 employees of AURA are eligible to participate in the deferred compensation plan as defined in Article I, Section 1.10 of the plan:

<u>AURA Business Center</u>	<u>Eligible Employee</u>
AURA Corporate Office (3 eligible)	Frogel, Jay A Narcisso, Deborah Smith Jr, William S
Gemini Operations (13 eligible)	Crabtree, Dennis Geballe, Thomas Hardash, Steve Jensen, Joseph Jorgensen, Inger McEvoy, Peter Rigaut, Francois Rogers, Bernadette Roth, Polly Roy, Jean Rene Sheehan, Mike Simons, Doug Upadhya, Vasudeva
National Optical Astronomy Observatory (42 eligible)	Abraham, Antony A Angeli, George Z Boroson, Todd A Bulau, Scott E Cho, Myung K. De Young, David S Eddy, John A Elias, Jonathan H Giampapa, Mark S Gregory, Brooke Gressler, William J. Hansen, Eric Harvey, John W Heathcote, Stephen R Hunten, Mark R Isbell, Doug Jacoby, George H Jannuzi, Buell T Joyce, Richard R Kantor, Jeff P. Keil, Stephen L Krabbendam, Victor L Leibacher, John W Merrill, K Michael Neill, Douglas R Ridgway, Stephen T Rimmele, Thomas R Saha, Abhijit Sebag, Jacques Shaw, Richard A. Silva, David

National Optical Astronomy Observatory
(continued)

Smith, Malcolm G
Smith, Robert C
Smith, Verne V.
Sprayberry, David
Stepp, Lawrence M
Wagner, Jeremy J
Walker, Alistair R
Wampler, Stephen B
Warner, Mark
Wilson, Karen M
Yeatts, Andrey K

Space Telescope Science Institute
(95 eligible)

Abernathy, Mark
Allen, Ronald J.
Ashwell, Judith A.
Balzano, Vicki A.
Beaser, Ray A.
Biagetti, Carl P.
Biretta, John A.
Blacker, Brett
Blades, John C.
Bohlin, Ralph C.
Bond, Howard E.
Brown, Robert A.
Bruff, Sheryl L.
Bushouse, Howard
Casertano, Stefano
Christian, Carol A.
Comeau, Thomas M.
Conti, Alberto
Cox, Colin R.
Debelius, Karen
Donaldson, Thomas
Doxsey, Rodger E.
Durkin, Martin P.
Eegholm, Bente H.
Etchison III, Luther J.
Fall, Steven M.
Ferguson, Henry C.
Flanagan, Kathryn
Friedman, Scott D.
Gilliland, Ronald L.
Giuliano, Mark E.
Golombek, Daniel A.
Goudfrooij, Paul
Greene, Gretchen R.
Greenfield, Perry E.
Hanisch, Robert J.
Hartig, George F.
Hauser, Michael
Hawkins, Robert E.
Henry, Ronald L.
Hodge, Philip E.
Hunter, David
Isaacs, John C.
Johnson, Carl A.

Space Telescope Science Institute
(continued)

Kakadelis, Stratis M.
Keyes, Charles D.
Kidwell, Richard C.
Kriss, Gerard
Krueger, Anthony P.
Leitherer, Claus H.
Livio, Mario
Long, Knox S.
Lubow, Stephen H.
MacKenty, John W.
McClure, Doris
McCullough, Peter
McLean, Brian J.
Meixner, Margaret
Miller Jr., Walter W.
Miller, Glenn E.
Miller, Jay
Mountain, Charles M.
Nelán, Edmund P.
Noll, Keith S.
Petro, Larry D.
Pollizzi III, Joseph A.
Postman, Marc
Reid, Iain N.
Riess, Adam
Robberto, Massimo
Romelfanger, Fred J.
Russ, Melissa L.
Sahu, Kailash C.
Saif, Babak
Schnader, Valen L.
Sembach, Kenneth
Shiao, Bernard T.
Smith, Linda J.
Soderblom, David R.
Sontag, Christopher D.
Sparks, William B.
Stallcup, Scott S.
Stanley, Margaret L.
Stiavelli, Massimo
Swade, Daryl A.
Swam, Michael S.
Taylor, David K.
Van Der Marel, Roeland P.
Villard, Raymond
Walborn, Nolan R.
Wheeler, Thomas P.
White, Richard L.
Whitman, William
Whitmore, Bradley C.
Williams, Robert E.

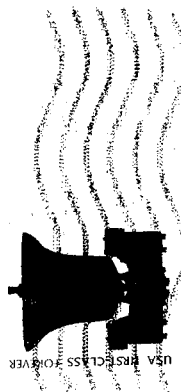


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